

Missing or Misplaced Commas

A. Directions: Rewrite the following sentences, adding commas where needed.
HINT: There may be more than one comma error in a sentence.

1. In 1869, Leopold Trouvelot a French scientist imported caterpillars to Massachusetts.

2. Trouvelot hoped to crossbreed the adult form of these caterpillars known as gypsy moths with the moths of silkworms.

3. He thought perhaps foolishly that he could create a new American caterpillar.

4. Cherishing his dream Trouvelot believed that the new crossbreed would make valuable silk.

5. Unfortunately Trouvelot's misguided experiment had a terrible outcome.

B. Directions: Rewrite the boxed paragraph to correct comma errors.

(6.) One day a gust of wind knocked over a caterpillar cage in Trouvelot's house. (7.)As you can imagine this unexpected event created quite a mess. (8.) Crawling out an open window the caterpillars escaped. (9.) Soon they grew into adult moths, and migrated. (10.) Over many years the moths spread to New York Maryland and Virginia. (11.) Now they have become annoying dangerous pests that destroy healthy trees. (12.) Who would have believed readers that so much trouble could have come from one mishap?
